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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3452nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 8 November 1994, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the agreement by the parties in the course of the third round of inter-Tajik talks, held in Islamabad from 20 to 31 October 1994, on the extension until 6 February 1995 of the Agreement of 17 September 1994 on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, as well as signing of the Protocol of the Joint Commission for the implementation of the Agreement. These agreements were arrived at through the good offices of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy and with the assistance of the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Russian Federation and other countries and of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks.

"The Council further welcomes the reaffirmed commitment by the parties to resolve the conflict only through political means and their agreement to hold the next round of talks in early December 1994 in Moscow.

"The Council emphasizes the importance of full and timely implementation by the parties of the obligations to which they have committed themselves including those relating to the exchange of prisoners. It especially stresses the need for strict observance of the cease-fire and cessation of all hostile acts.

"The Council invites the parties to make all the efforts necessary to achieve further substantial progress during the next round of inter-Tajik talks. It calls upon them to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for this purpose.

"The Council reaffirms its support for the efforts by the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy to facilitate the political dialogue between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition aimed at achieving national reconciliation. It welcomes the establishment by the parties of a Joint Commission to monitor the implementation of the 17 September Agreement, and requests the Secretary-General to present expeditiously his views and recommendations regarding the role that the United Nations could play in assisting the practical implementation of the agreements achieved including any implications for the current United Nations Mission to Tajikistan.

"The Council calls upon the international community, and in particular, the States of the region to render utmost support to the consolidation of the progress towards national reconciliation achieved in the course of the inter-Tajik talks and to abstain from any actions that could complicate the peace process."